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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2004

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Report Highlights:

Export prices are under upward pressure again due to the strengthening of the Thai Baht and the domestic prices.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Dec. 20):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	445	415	460	451	450	420	430	439	438
WR 100 B	282	282	283	287	280	282	280	282	279
PB 5%	275	279	282	284	282	285	270	280	277
WR 5%	277	277	280	281	275	278	275	278	274
WR 10%	273	272	276	279	272	274	270	274	271
WR 15%	268	269	271	276	270	272	265	270	267
WR 25%	262	258	266	274	255	255	260	261	257
WR 35%	259	254	-	271	252	252	255	257	252
A 1 SUP	220	222	-	220	220	219	215	219	220
A 1 SPEC	218	221	-	217	217	-	213	217	218
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice are under upward pressure again from the Thai Baht uncertainty and recent fresh demand from Iraq and Iran. The Thai Baht strengthened to 38.9 Baht/US\$, as compared to the weakening of the Thai Baht to an average of 39.3 Baht/US\$ in the previous week. Also, domestic prices rebound in response to anticipated continued demand for white rice shipments for Iraq and Iran for several weeks, following their latest deals. Trade sources expected domestic prices will likely remain strong for the next couple of months.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
OCT 31	235,062	214,026	6,613	4,188
NOV 7	177,334	208,857	6,790	4,318
NOV 14	173,515	198,543	6,964	4,432
NOV 21	136,609	180,630	7,101	4,572
NOV 28	159,569	161,757	7,260	4,727
DEC 5	164,956	158,662	7,425	4,818
DEC 12	131,152	148,071	7,556	4,936
DEC 19	112,254	141,983	7,668	5,045

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Dec. 13-19, 2004 totaled 112,254 tons, down 18,898 tons from the previous week's total and down 29,729 tons from the four-week moving average of 141,983 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Dec. 19, 2004 totaled 7,668,443 tons, compared with 5,044,708 tons during the same period in 2003.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1- Nov. 30, 2004, amounted to 9,262,501 tons, up 38 percent from 6,692,427 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Nov. 29 – Dec. 3, Dec. 6-10, and Dec. 13-17, 2004 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Nov. 29 – Dec. 3	Dec. 6-10	Dec. 13-17
weekly sales	160,003	128,889	75,131
4 week sum	800,220	648,965	594,133
4 week mov. avg.	200,055	162,241	148,533
Total weekly sales	8,368,454	8,497,343	8,572,474

End of Report.